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ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, March 25, 1982 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended March 20 totaled an estimated 16.7 billion ton-miles, 14.5 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 12 weeks of 1982 was an estimated 191.6 billion ton-miles, 11.9 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended March 20 totaled 390,317 cars, 15.6 percent below 1981, but 0.1 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 20.2 percent in the East, 13.2 percent in the South, and 13.5 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1981, 20 of the 21 commodity groups were down. Thirteen of the 21 groups declined from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended March 13 totaled 37,455 cars, up 8.9 percent from the corresponding week of 1981, and 63,498 trailers and/or containers, 2.0 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first eleven weeks of the year was 372,433 cars, 7.9 percent higher than last year, and 656,288 trailers and/or containers, up 5.1 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 3/20/82:

	Loadings in Week ended March 20, 1982		Change from Corresponding Week 1981			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	25,740	D	1,715	6.2	D	1,085	4.0
Other farm products	3,602	I	245	7.3	D	198	5.2
Metallic ores	20,288	D	7,550	27.1	I	3,690	22.2
Coal	120,914	D	14,527	10.7	D	450	0.4
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	9,677	D	2,672	21.6	I	69	0.7
Nonmetallic minerals	12,170	D	1,333	9.9	I	612	5.3
Grain mill products	12,871	D	2,793	17.8	I	260	2.1
Food and kindred products	14,050	D	2,110	13.1	D	206	1.4
Primary forest products	16,997	D	2,593	13.2	D	129	0.8
Lumber and wood products except furniture	6,065	D	2,895	32.3	I	360	6.3
Pulp, paper and allied products	17,244	D	3,318	16.1	I	246	1.4
Chemicals and allied products	23,514	D	6,577	21.9	D	759	3.1
Petroleum products	4,460	D	551	11.0	D	187	4.0
Stone, clay and glass products	10,029	D	4,818	32.5	D	519	4.9
Coke	5,085	D	1,463	22.3	D	205	3.9
Metals and products	11,075	D	6,265	36.1	I	109	1.0
Motor vehicles and equipment	15,816	D	2,990	15.9	D	24	0.2
Waste and scrap materials	9,291	D	4,511	32.7	D	298	3.1
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	9,145	D	1,430	13.5	D	347	3.7
All other carloads	42,078	D	2,065	4.7	D	629	1.8
LCL traffic	206	D	65	24.0	I	12	6.2
Total Cars Loaded	390,317	D	71,996	15.6	I	322	0.1
Corresponding week of 1981	462,313						

	1982	1981	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (12 weeks)	4,434,824	5,165,076	D 14.1
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
11 Weeks cumulative	174.9	197.8	D 11.6
Week ended March 20	16.7	19.6	D 14.5
12 Weeks cumulative	191.6	217.4	D 11.9

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